



## *The Old Ironsides Report*

16 June 2003

# U.S. begins new military operation in Iraq

FALLUJAH, Iraq (CNN) -- American troops in Iraq began a new operation Sunday that targets "Baath party loyalists, terrorist organizations and criminal elements" and delivers humanitarian aid to Iraqis outside Baghdad, according to the U.S. Central Command.

U.S. military officials called Operation Desert Scorpion the largest deployment in Iraq since April 7, the height of the U.S.-led war.

The operation began early Sunday with raids in the town of Fallujah, where elements believed to be loyal to the toppled regime of Saddam Hussein have launched repeated attacks against U.S. troops. (More on Fallujah raid)

A spokesman for the U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Florida, said the operation would include military actions throughout Iraq.

U.S. forces in Fallujah and elsewhere have been under a constant barrage of hit-and-run assaults since May 1, the day President Bush declared major combat operations over in Iraq.

The Coalition Provisional Authority's two-week "gun amnesty" ended Saturday. Iraqi civilians can keep weapons no larger than Kalashnikov rifles, but some Iraqis, particularly shopkeepers, have complained that handing in their weapons has left them defenseless against robberies.

Operation Desert Scorpion also includes engineering and civil affairs initiatives to repair damaged infrastructure and to support the growth of police forces and local government.

In Fallujah, U.S. troops brought in gasoline tankers and manned the pumps to dole out fuel to Iraqis, for whom hours-long waits for gas had become commonplace.

Though the nation is awash in oil, its refineries have been slow to restart and distribution of supplies has been spotty since the major fighting ended.

Central Command said its forces detained about 400 Iraqis and seized numerous weapons and ammunition during the previous operation, dubbed Peninsula Strike.



First Armored Division soldiers search Iraqis at a roadside checkpoint. AP Photo

By Sunday, all but 30 detainees had been released. During the raids, two former Iraqi generals turned themselves in, Central Command said.

Maj. Gen. Abul Ali Jasmin, secretary of the Defense Ministry, and Brig. Gen. Abdullah Ali Jasmin, head of the Iraqi Military Academy, were detained for questioning.

Iraqi villagers said U.S. forces killed five civilians during one raid, but Central Command did not confirm the allegation. The military said two "hostile civilians" were wounded.

## WE A T H E R

Mon Jun 16		111°/81°
Tue Jun 17		111°/78°

## NEWS

### Senator: Open Hearings on WMD Possible

WASHINGTON (AP) - The chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee held out the possibility Sunday of open hearings in the panel's examination of the quality of prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and how it was used by the Bush administration.

### Saudis Say They Foiled 'Imminent' Attack

MECCA, Saudi Arabia (AP) - The Saudi government said Sunday it foiled "an imminent terrorist" attack with an overnight raid on a bomb-filled, booby-trapped apartment in the holy city of Mecca that left five suspects and two security agents dead. It was not clear if the raid was linked to Saudi Arabia's crackdown since suicide bomb attacks on May 12 targeting Western residential compounds in the capital Riyadh.

### Search Ends for 2 Missing From Ore. Boat

GARIBALDI, Ore. (AP) - A search along the northern Oregon coast ended Sunday for two men still missing after a large wave struck and capsized a charter fishing boat as it left port, killing nine others among the 19 people aboard. Two Coast Guard rescue boats and a helicopter had resumed the search at dawn but officials called it off midmorning, saying the two couldn't have survived for so long in the 50-degree water.

### Iran Arrests Anti-Government Activists

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) - Police arrested four activists accused of involvement in days of street protests against Iran's Islamic government, and President Bush said Sunday that the demonstrations showed a yearning for freedom. The protests in the capital eased - as did the clashes sparked by hard-liners trying to suppress the demonstrators - but sporadic violence elsewhere claimed the first reported fatality. Police deployed in and around student dormitories throughout Tehran to prevent any repeat of last week's violence, in which pro-clerical militants wielding clubs and knives clashed with students.

### Chaplain's thought for the day Continuing

James J. Braddock, heavyweight champion of many years ago, said, "When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so tired you wish your opponent would crack you one on the jaw and put you to sleep, fight one more round - remember, the person who fights one more round is never whipped."

*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58*

## SPORTS

### Busch gets tuned in

BROOKLYN, Mich. — Kurt Busch won Sunday's 200-lap NASCAR Sirius Satellite Radio 400 at Michigan Speedway. Bobby Labonte finished second, followed by Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Matt Kenseth. The win was Busch's series-leading third of the season.

### Armstrong seals Dauphine Libere win

GRENOBLE, France — Lance Armstrong won the Dauphine Libere cycling race Sunday, a strong victory heading into the Tour de France next month.

### Roddick powers way to London crown

LONDON — Andy Roddick enjoyed a commanding victory leading to Wimbledon, beating Sebastien Grosjean 6-3, 6-3 Sunday to win the Queen's Club title. This was the second title of the year for the hard-serving American.

## US OPEN

### First for Furyk

Jim Furyk's U.S. Open title pursuit was never in doubt on Sunday. After entering the final round with a three-stroke lead, Furyk shot a 72 to keep his distance from Stephen Leaney and the rest of the field and earn his first major championship. His 8-under 272 tied the Open 72-hole record. Meanwhile, two-time winner and defending champ Tiger Woods struggled to a 3-over 283.

### LEADERBOARD

US Open -- last updated at 8:07pm

Pos.	Player	Score	Through	Total Today	Total Strokes
1	Furyk, James	-8	F	+2	272
2	Leaney, Stephen	-5	F	+2	275
3	Perry, Kenny	-1	F	-3	279
3	Weir, Mike	-1	F	+1	279
5	Els, Ernie	E	F	+2	280

Full Hole-by-Hole Leaderboard

### BIAP Entertainment Center Events

#### USA Express

16 & 18 June 1900  
4th Brigade Hangars

#### Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders (Cowgirls)

19 June 0900-1200  
4th Brigade Hangars